



4184-24-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

State Median Income Estimates for a Four-Person Household: Notice of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013 State Median Income Estimates for Use under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

AGENCY: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Division of Energy Assistance, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of State median income estimates for FFY 2013.

SUMMARY: This notice announces to grantees of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) the estimated median income of four-person households in each State and the District of Columbia for FFY 2013 (October 1, 2012, to September 30, 2013). LIHEAP grantees that choose to base their income eligibility criteria on these State Median Income (SMI) estimates may adopt these estimates (up to 60 percent) on their date of publication in the **Federal Register** or on a later date as discussed below. This enables grantees to implement this notice during the period between the heating and cooling seasons. However, by October 1, 2012, or the beginning of the grantees' fiscal year, whichever is later, such grantees must adjust their income eligibility criteria so that such criteria are in accord with the FFY 2013 SMI.

The 60 percent of SMI criterion provides one of the maximum income criteria that LIHEAP grantees may use in determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP.

The LIHEAP appropriations for FFY 2009 through April 15, 2011 raised this criterion from 60 percent of SMI to 75 percent of SMI for that period. However, no change was made to the LIHEAP authorizing statute. Furthermore, the LIHEAP appropriation for FFY 2012 did not alter this criterion; thus it returned to 60 percent of SMI for FFY 2012.

DATES: *Effective Date:* These estimates become effective at any time between the date of this publication and the later of (1) October 1, 2012; or (2) the beginning of a grantees' fiscal year.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the provisions of section 2603(11) of Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, Public Law (Pub. L.) 97-35, as amended, HHS announces the estimated median income of four-person families for each State, the District of Columbia, and the United States for FFY 2013 (October 1, 2012, through September 30, 2013).

Section 2605(b)(2)(B)(ii) of this Act provides that 60 percent of the median income of four-person families for each State and the District of Columbia (State median income, or

SMI), as annually established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, is one of the income criteria that LIHEAP grantees may use in determining a household's eligibility for LIHEAP.

LIHEAP was last authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, which was enacted on August 8, 2005. This authorization expired on September 30, 2007, and reauthorization remains pending.

The SMI estimates that HHS publishes in this notice are 3-year estimates derived from the American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce (Census Bureau). HHS obtained these estimates directly from the Census Bureau. For additional information about the ACS State median income estimates, including the definition of income and the derivation of medians see http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2010_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf under "Income in the Past 12 Months." For additional information about the ACS in general, see <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/> or contact the Census Bureau's Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division at (301) 763-3243.

Under the advice of the Census Bureau, HHS switched to 3-year estimates from single-year estimates to reduce the large year-to-year fluctuations that the single-year estimates tend to generate for certain States and the District of Columbia. HHS plans to use the Census Bureau's ACS-derived SMI three-year estimates for all fiscal years after 2010. For further information about ACS one-year and 3-year estimates, see

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/estimates/.

The SMI estimates, like those derived from any survey, are subject to two types of errors:

(1) Nonsampling Error, which consists of random errors that increase the variability of the data and non-random errors that consistently shift the data into a specific direction; and (2) Sampling Error, which consists of the error that arises from the use of probability sampling to create the sample. For additional information about the accuracy of the ACS SMI estimates, see

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2010.pdf.

A State-by-State listing of SMI and 60 percent of SMI for a four-person family for FFY 2013 follows. In using this listing, LIHEAP grantees must regard “family” to be the equivalent of “household” with regards to setting their income eligibility criteria. This listing describes the method for adjusting SMI for households of different sizes as specified in regulations applicable to LIHEAP, at 45 CFR 96.85(b), which were published in the **Federal Register** on March 3, 1988, at 53 FR 6824 and amended on October 15, 1999, at 64 FR 55858.

Dated: March 7, 2012_____

Jeannie L. Chaffin
Director
Office of Community Services

ESTIMATED STATE MEDIAN INCOME FOR A FOUR-PERSON FAMILY, BY STATE, FOR
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2013, FOR USE IN THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

States	Estimated State median income for four-person families ¹	60 percent of estimated State median income for four-person families ^{2, 3}
Alabama.....	\$64,079	\$38,447
Alaska.....	86,658	51,995
Arizona.....	66,350	39,810
Arkansas.....	56,975	34,185
California.....	77,896	46,738
Colorado.....	81,477	48,886
Connecticut.....	101,973	61,184
Delaware.....	85,490	51,294
District of Columbia.....	76,652	45,991
Florida.....	65,728	39,437
Georgia.....	67,276	40,366
Hawaii.....	87,456	52,474
Idaho.....	61,631	36,979
Illinois.....	80,858	48,515
Indiana.....	69,929	41,957
Iowa.....	73,972	44,383
Kansas.....	71,899	43,139
Kentucky.....	64,119	38,471
Louisiana.....	66,896	40,138
Maine.....	71,237	42,742
Maryland.....	102,002	61,201
Massachusetts.....	100,228	60,137
Michigan.....	72,937	43,762
Minnesota.....	85,577	51,346
Mississippi.....	57,132	34,279
Missouri.....	69,727	41,836
Montana.....	67,097	40,258
Nebraska.....	71,864	43,118
Nevada.....	69,197	41,518
New Hampshire.....	92,216	55,330
New Jersey.....	102,552	61,531
New Mexico.....	55,446	33,268
New York.....	82,222	49,333
North Carolina.....	66,978	40,187
North Dakota.....	78,295	46,977
Ohio.....	72,732	43,639
Oklahoma.....	61,941	37,165
Oregon.....	70,957	42,574
Pennsylvania.....	78,576	47,146
Rhode Island.....	88,083	52,850
South Carolina.....	64,303	38,582

States	Estimated State median income for four-person families ¹	60 percent of estimated State median income for four-person families ^{2, 3}
South Dakota	69,221	41,533
Tennessee.....	62,902	37,741
Texas.....	66,093	39,656
Utah	68,068	40,841
Vermont.....	76,418	45,851
Virginia.....	87,209	52,325
Washington.....	81,797	49,078
West Virginia.....	60,825	36,495
Wisconsin	77,829	46,697
Wyoming	74,281	44,569

Note: FFY 2013 covers the period of October 1, 2012, through September 30, 2013. The estimated median income for four-person families living in the United States for this period is \$74,964. Grantees that use SMI for LIHEAP may, at their option, employ such estimates at any time between the date of this publication and the later of October 1, 2012 or the beginning of their fiscal years.

¹ Prepared by the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce (Census Bureau), from three-year estimates from the 2008, 2009 and 2010 American Community Surveys (ACSs). These estimates, like those derived from any survey, are subject to two types of errors: (1) Nonsampling Error, which consists of random errors that increase the variability of the data and non-random errors that consistently direct the data into a specific direction; and (2) Sampling Error, which consists of the error that arises from the use of probability sampling to create the sample.

² These figures were calculated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services, Division of Energy Assistance by multiplying the estimated State median income for a four-person family for each State by 60 percent.

³ To adjust for different sizes of household for LIHEAP purposes, 45 CFR 96.85 calls for multiplying 60 percent of a State's estimated median income for a four-person family by the following percentages: 52 percent for one person, 68 percent for two persons, 84 percent for three persons, 100 percent for four persons, 116 percent for five persons, and 132 percent for six persons. For each additional family member above six persons, 45 CFR 96.85 calls for adding 3 percentage points to the percentage for a six-person family (132 percent) and multiply the new percentage by 60 percent of a State's estimated median income for a four-person family.

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